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EXAMINER

VEZERIS, JAMES A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3693

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/19/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/669,787

Applicant(s)

JONES ET AL.

Examiner

JAMES A. VEZERIS

Art Unit

3693

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 and 61-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 and 61-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 64-66 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

Non-Final Action

Response to Applicant's Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 12, 23, and 32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10, 11, 20, 21, 24, 25, 33, and 34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Examiner apologizes for not following up on the reasoning for rejection in the Final Action.
3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 8, 18, 26, 61, 62, and 63 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Election Restriction

4. Newly submitted claims 64-66 directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: The original claims discuss a method and system for crediting an account. The new claims, 64-66, discuss dispensing currency.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 64-66 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

35 U.S.C. 112 2nd Paragraph

5. Claim 4 recites the limitation "the report" in the body. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner will review the claims as if the claim read "the government-required report."

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-42 and 61-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6363164 to Jones et al. (Hereinafter "Jones") in view of US Patent 4774663 to Musmanno et al. (Hereinafter "Musmanno") in further view of applicant's specification. (Related Art)

Regarding Claim 1.

Jones teaches accepting deposits of currency bills into a document processing device for crediting to a specified account, comprising:

receiving a plurality of documents associated with a deposit being made at a financial institution into an input receptacle of the document processing device, wherein the plurality of documents include at least one currency bill bearing a printed image that includes a serial number; (See Column 7 Lines 4-21, Column 6 Lines 1-9)

scanning the image of at least the serial number on each currency bill to produce electronic data; (See Column 6 Lines 1-9)

extracting the serial number of each currency bill from the electronic data; (See Column 6 Lines 1-9)

denominating each currency bill; (Column 44 Lines 28-42)

accumulating the total value of the currency bills included in each deposit; (See Column 34 Lines 30-43)

Jones fails to further teach in the document processing device, automatically generating a government-required report whenever the accumulated total value exceeds a prescribed value, the government-required report comprising at least an identification of the specified account at the financial institution to which the deposit is being made, the accumulated total value of the deposit, and the serial number for each currency bill included in the deposit.

Musmanno teaches automatically generating a government-required report whenever the accumulated total value exceeds a prescribed value, (See Columns 4-5 Lines 54-5)

Related Art teaches the government-required report comprising at least an identification of the specified account at the financial institution to which the deposit is being made, the accumulated total value of the deposit, and the serial number for each currency bill included in the deposit. (Related Art)

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine admitted prior art with the invention of Jones and the invention of Musmanno.

There is motivation to do so because reporting what has been deposited will allow the user to stay in accordance with government regulations automatically by including all the necessary government documents and information.

Regarding Claim 2.

Jones teaches counting a number of currency bills of each denomination included in the deposit; (See Column 34 Lines 30-43)

automatically generating the government-required report includes generating the report to further comprise the number of currency bills of each denomination included in the deposit. (See Column 34 Lines 30-43)

Regarding Claim 3.

Jones fails to teach generating the government-required report further comprises generating the report to include an identification of a location of the document processing device into which the deposit was made, and an identification of a teller or customer responsible for the deposit.

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches generating the government-required report further comprises generating the report to include an identification of a location of the document processing device into which the deposit was made, and an identification of a teller or customer responsible for the deposit.

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the admitted prior art with the invention of Jones. There is motivation to do so because reporting what has been deposited into the will allow the user to stay in accordance with government regulations.

Regarding Claim 4.

Jones teaches scanning further comprises scanning a complete image on at least one side of each currency bill so as to produce the electronic data, (Summary of the Invention)

Jones fails to further teach automatically generating the government-required report includes automatically generating the report to include complete images of the currency bills included in the deposit.

Applicants admitted prior art teaches automatically generating the government-required report includes automatically generating the report to include complete images of the currency bills included in the deposit. It would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the admitted prior art with the invention of Jones. There is motivation to do so because reporting what has been deposited, and including images of the currency bills, will allow the user to stay in accordance with the government regulations.

Regarding Claim 5.

Jones teaches the documents include at least one deposit slip bearing an image, and wherein scanning includes scanning the image on the deposit slip to produce the electronic data. (See Column 27)

Regarding Claim 6.

Jones further teaches reading the identification of the specified account at the financial institution from a card supplied by a depositor; (Column 12 Lines 27-39)

storing the specified account identification with the scanned images relating to

the corresponding deposit. (See Column 10 Lines 38-58)

Regarding Claim 7.

Jones fails to further teach the prescribed value is \$10,000.

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches the prescribed value is \$10,000. Examiner notes that since the report is government required, it would be known that it has to be supplied at the prescribed value of \$10,000.

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the admitted prior art with the invention of Jones. There is motivation to do so because reporting what has been deposited will allow the user to stay in accordance with government rules.

Regarding Claim 8.

Jones further teaches storing the electronic data so that images of the documents may be retrieved and displayed for review at a time subsequent to completion of the deposit. (See Abstract, Fig. 1)

Regarding Claim 9.

Jones further teaches:

detecting a suspect counterfeit currency bill included in the deposit; (Figure 28)

generating a signal indicating the detection of a suspect counterfeit bill; (Figure 28)

retaining electronic data representing at least a portion of an image on the detected suspect counterfeit bill in association with the identification of the specified account at the financial institution. (Column 76)

Regarding Claim 10.

Jones teaches transporting the plurality of documents and denominating the plurality of documents occurs at a rate in excess of 800 documents per minute. (Column 14 Line 64)

Regarding Claim 11.

Jones teaches transporting the plurality of documents and denominating the plurality of documents occurs at a rate in excess of 1,000 documents per minute. (Column 14 Line 67)

Regarding Claim 61.

Jones further teaches the electronic data represents at least a partial video image of each currency bill. (See Column 6 Lines 1-10)

Regarding Claims 12-43 and 62-63.

Claims 12-43 and 62-63 are rejected using analogous reasoning given to claims 1-11 and 61.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES A. VEZERIS whose telephone number is (571)270-1580. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-alt. Fridays 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Kramer can be reached on 571-272-6803. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James A. Kramer/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3693

/JAMES A VEZERIS/
Examiner, Art Unit 3693

11/14/2008